

REMARKS

The Office Action and cited references have been reviewed. Claims 10-12 have been cancelled. New claims 28-30 have been added. No claims have been amended. Claims 2-9, 13 and 28-30 remain pending. Consideration of the pending claims is respectfully requested.

Rejection under 35 U.S.C. §103

The Office Action has rejected claims 11 and 12 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Pat. No. 6,408,553 to Brown, et al. (hereinafter “Brown”). The Office Action has further rejected claims 10 and 12 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Pat. No. 6,263,603 to Wildrick (hereinafter “Wildrick”) in view of Brown.

The Applicants have cancelled claims 10-12. Therefore, the rejections of claims 10-12 are now moot.

Allowable Subject Matter

The Office Action has indicated that claims 2-9 and 13 are allowed. The Applicant thanks the Examiner for the notice of allowed claims.

Miscellaneous

The Applicants have rewritten claims 10-12 as new claims 28-30. New claims 28-30 depend from allowable independent claim 13. Therefore, new claims 28-30, which include all of the base limitations of allowable independent claim 13, should also be allowable. Notice of the same is respectfully requested.

In re Appln. Of: Thomas E. Valiulis
Application No.: 10/689,283

Conclusion

The application is considered in good and proper form for allowance, and the Examiner is respectfully requested to pass this application to issue. If, in the opinion of the Examiner, a telephone conference would expedite the prosecution of the subject application, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned attorney.

Respectfully submitted,



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Date: June 21, 2006